
The Michigan Autism Council



AUTISM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Lewis Cass Building

Friday, June 26, 2015

9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT	ORGANIZATION, REPRESENTATION
Colleen Allen	Autism Alliance of Michigan, Non-profit Organization serving those with ASD
Mary Chaliman	Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Scott Gilman	Network 180, Pre-Paid Inpatient Health Plans
Diane Heinzelman, Chairperson	Charlevoix-Emmet Intermediate School District, Intermediate School Districts and Local Schools
Anthony Ianni	Michigan Department of Civil Rights, ASD Community (Self-advocate)
Cathy Kirby	Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services
Amy Matthews, Vice-Chairperson	Grand Valley State University, State-funded Initiatives
George Mellos	Hawthorn Center, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Stacie Rulison, Secretary	ASD Community (Parent)
Joanne Winkelman	Michigan Department of Education
COUNCIL MEMBERS EXCUSED	ORGANIZATION, REPRESENTATION
Wayne Fuqua	Western Michigan University, State Universities
Jane Turner	Michigan State University, Medical Centers/ Health Care Providers
MDHHS STAFF PRESENT	MDHHS ORGANIZATION
Hailey DuBreuil	Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders Section
Lisa Grost	Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders Section
Rachel Rick	Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders Section
Karla Ruest	Legislative Affairs
Morgan VanDenBerg	Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders Section
Lynda Zeller	Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration
GUESTS PRESENT	ORGANIZATION
Jill Matson	Autism Alliance of Michigan
Colleen McGavin	University of Michigan, Medical School
Tammy Morris	Autism Alliance of Michigan
Audra Parsons	Autism Alliance of Michigan
Camille Proctor	The Color of Autism Foundation
Scott Schuelke	Autism Alliance of Michigan
Christiana Shaw	Special Education and Behavioral Connections

ROLL CALL

A Roll Call of the Council Members, MDHHS staff, and guests was completed.

CALL TO ORDER

The Autism Council meeting was called to order by Chair Diane Heinzelman at 9:00 A.M. A quorum was present for the meeting.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Chair Diane Heinzelman called for a **MOTION** to approve the April minutes. Cathy Kirby made a **MOTION** to approve the April minutes. Anthony Ianni **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION** carried.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Karla Ruest reported on the 2016 budget for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. University autism initiatives funding has a \$2.5M line item in the budget to be distributed through a RFP (request for proposal) process. The budget language states “The Department shall allocate funds appropriated in part 1 for university autism programs through a grant process for the purpose of increasing the number of applied behavioral analysis therapists, autism diagnostic centers, autism treatment centers, and employment programs, and to increase the autism clinical expertise of health care providers.”

Karla continues to work with Senator Warren and Senator O’Brien on introducing legislation for licensing Board Certified Behavior Analysts. A stakeholder meeting was held in May and Karla will follow up on next steps. The Legislature will be in and out all summer and she expects the licensure legislation to start moving this fall.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

PRESENTATION BY GVSU START, a project of MDE, OSE

Amy Matthews presented on the Statewide Autism Resources and Training. The presentation can be accessed here: [START Autism Council presentation.pptx](#)

STANDING REPORTS

• **Autism Update –**

- Lisa Grost, representing the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, reported Hailey DuBreuil began on June 22, 2015 as the ASD Family Supports and Services Analyst. She also reported Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority is using non-Medicaid funding to provide applied behavior analysis therapy for children beyond age 6. .
- Scott Gilman, representing Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans, reported the field is gearing up for the age expansion of Medicaid covered applied behavior analysis therapy and expressed continued concern regarding provider capacity. Scott’s organization, Network 180, is in the process of developing a collaborative pilot project with Blue Care Network, Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Community Mental Health (CEI), and Kalamazoo Community Mental Health that utilizes the community mental health system as a crisis response unit for children and families with private insurance.
- Joanne Winkelman, representing the Michigan Department of Education, reported on the 2020 Federal Transition Plan which outlines how federal partners in transition will enhance interagency coordination through five goals. The Michigan Transition Project is being redesigned around the 2020 Federal Transition Plan and opportunities for collaboration are being explored.
- Anthony Ianni, representing the ASD community, reported his Anti-bullying initiative (The Relentless Tour) continues to grow in success and now reaches schools throughout the nation.

- Mary Chaliman, representing the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, reported on a series of trainings that will take place this summer and fall regarding informed consent for psychotropic medication prescribing. The training will focus on the use of MiTeam, a case practice model used to engage parents and caregivers, to assist in increasing compliance with the informed consent process.
- George Mellos, representing the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, reported on the significant increase of children with ASD being admitted the Hawthorn Center. In the last year and a half, admissions of kids with ASD have more than doubled with over 90 kids being admitted in the last year. Hawthorn has begun conversations around restructuring staff to meet the high demand of treating individuals with ASD. George also reported on the successes and struggles of the Children's Behavioral Action Team (CBAT). The CBAT consists of transition coordinators, occupational therapists, board certified behavior analysts and other professionals who follow 25 children with severe behavioral challenges for a year to assist them with integration back into their community.
- Colleen Allen, representing Non-profit organizations serving individuals with ASD, reported on her organization's (Autism Alliance of Michigan) struggles responding to families in crisis who have tapped the supports available to them. Council members discussed what needs to happen in the interim to respond to crisis related issues. Colleen also reported on a few of Autism Alliance of Michigan's family events including an upcoming 5k and family day at the zoo.
- Cathy Kirby, representing the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services, provided a summary of the autism coverage reimbursement fund claims and balance ([Autism Claims Report](#)). Cathy also reported DIFS has been working with DHHS to develop a report on insurance coverage for autism treatment in the State of Michigan and hope to have the data available next month.
- **Autism Support Services Initiative –**
 - Colleen Allen reported Autism Alliance of Michigan's MINavigator program has over 200 resolved family cases with 135 active cases. In January, they plan to hire operators but at this point are focusing on their specialists roles and gathering resources. AAoM recently held a multicultural summit to identify needs in various cultural communities.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Diane Heinzelman introduced a Committee Work Plan Template and Committee Agenda Template. Council members approved templates and are expected to report out using these documents moving forward.

NEW BUSINESS

Council members reviewed the reappointment process outlined in the Operations Manual and Reference Guide. Four seats are up for review September 30, 2015.

Diane Heinzelman introduced an addition to the Operations Manual and Reference Guide which outlines standards for Autism Council products and outputs.

The date of the October 2015 Autism Council meeting was corrected to follow the Operations Manual and Reference Guide Autism Council meeting schedule of the fourth Friday of every other month. The corrected meeting date is reflected online at www.michigan.gov/autism.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Early Childhood Committee–**
 - Committee members met on June 5th, 2015. Committee chairs introduced the new work plan graphic, discussed outcomes, and focused on overall goals rather than smaller work activities. Members shared a lot of information of autism initiatives throughout the state. A doodle poll has been sent to members to determine a September meeting date.

- **Child and Youth Committee –**
 - Committee members are meeting soon to draft the committee’s work plan. The work plan will be shared at the August Autism Council meeting.
- **Adult committee –**
 - Committee members are meeting soon to complete the committee’s work plan. The work plan will be shared at the August Autism Council meeting.
- **Insurance committee –**
 - Committee members will meet on July 14, 2015. In recent meetings, discussion included AAEC waitlist times, adding speech and language pathology representation to the committee, and addressing priorities through workgroups.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at **11:45** P.M. The next Autism Council meeting will be on *August 28, 2015* in the Lewis Cass 5th floor Large Conference Room.

ACTION ITEMS

- Lynda Zeller will share Crisis Management Committee Recommendation December 2014 document created by a committee of the Autism Council with the Certificate of Need (CON) task force.